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| 10/036,065      | 10/19/2001  | Mitsunobu Yoshida    | 70904/56627         | 3923             |

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EXAMINER

MAGEE, CHRISTOPHER R

| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
|----------|--------------|
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2653

DATE MAILED: 03/25/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/036,065

Applicant(s)

YOSHIDA, MITSUNOBU

Examiner

Christopher R. Magee

Art Unit

2653

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 and 9-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 5-8 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 19 October 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 5.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Priority*

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

### *Specification*

2. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

*A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –*

*(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.*

3. Claims 1-4, 9, 10 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Tanishima (US 6,597,533 B1).

- Regarding claims 1, 9 and 10, Tanishima shows a disk cartridge C, comprising:
  - a disk D for storing data;
  - a cartridge C for containing the disk in a rotatable manner, complete with a read/write window through which read/write means of an optical disk read/write device makes internal access;

a shutter 86 which, when the cartridge is inserted into the optical disk read/write device and the read/write window is opened, slides on the cartridge in a direction opposite to a direction of the insertion as a result of the insertion; and

a lock member 94 for engaging with the shutter to prevent the shutter from moving when the shutter is closed and disengaging from the shutter as a result of the insertion of the cartridge;

wherein the lock member 94 includes:

an engagement section 94b for engaging with the shutter near a side face of the cartridge;

a lever section (not numbered) which rotates around a rotation support point which is located closer to a middle front part of the cartridge in terms of the direction of the insertion than is the engagement section; and

a spring section 94c, rooted at the lever section, opposite the engagement section, between the engagement section and the rotation support point to extend towards and past the rotation support point, for pressing the lever section to apply thereto a rotational force in such a direction that the lever section can engage with the shutter (col. 19, lines 10-15; Figs. 31-34).

- Regarding claim 2, Tanishima shows a tip of the spring section 94c of the lock member is displaced on a wall, of the cartridge, for receiving the tip of the spring section of the lock member;

an angle of the wall, of the cartridge, for receiving the tip of the spring section is specified equal to an angle between (i) a position of a tip of the spring section of the lock member displaced by an amount equivalent to a predetermined load when the lock member is in

engagement with the shutter and (ii) a position of the tip of the spring section when the lock member is not in engagement, the position being an addition of an angular displacement of the spring section when the lock member is in engagement and an angle less than half the angular displacement of the lock member (Figs. 31-34).

- Regarding claim 3, Tanishima shows the tip of the spring section is provided in a movable manner; and the cartridge has a regulator section for regulating movement of the tip (Figs. 31-34).

- Regarding claim 4, Tanishima shows a sliding section provided on the tip of the spring section (Figs. 31-34).

- Regarding claim 14, Tanishima shows part of a unlocking member 40c where the unlocking member contacts the lock member 94 is provided substantially parallel to the contact surface of the lock member (Fig. 32).

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

*(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.*

4. Claims 11-13 and 15-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tanishima (US 6,597,533 B1) as applied to claim 10 above, and further in view of Takahashi (US 6,236,541 B1).

- Regarding claims 11-13 and 15-18, Tanishima shows all the features, *supra*, except the shutter has a shutter window section carved out for engaging with a shutter-moving protuberance of the cartridge holder as a result of insertion of the cartridge into the cartridge holder to cause the shutter to slide and open/close; and

the lock member is adapted so that the shutter moving protuberance is caught in the shutter window section when the unlocking member of the cartridge holder is in contact with the contact surface of the lock member.

Takahashi shows a shutter having a shutter window section carved out for engaging with a shutter moving protuberance of the cartridge holder as a result of insertion of the cartridge into the cartridge holder to cause the shutter to slide and open/close (col. 5, lines 20-23) and a lock member adapted so that the shutter moving protuberance is caught in the shutter window section when the unlocking member of the cartridge holder is in contact with the contact surface of the lock member (col. 7, lines 1-11).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the disc cartridge of Tanishima with a shutter window and a lock member as taught by Takahashi.

The rationale is as follows: One of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would have been motivated to provide the disc cartridge of Tanishima with a shutter window and a lock member as taught by Takahashi so that the shutter will be locked until proper insertion into a disk device and will not open due to a dropping shock (Takahashi; col. 3, lines 30-43).

*Allowable Subject Matter*

5. Claims 5-8 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

*Conclusion*


6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

- a. Uehara (4,802,041) is cited to show a loading device for a cassette having a cover member.
- b. Suzuki (US 4,876,619) is cited to show a disk cartridge having a shutter and a device for opening and closing the shutter.
- c. Fujisawa (US 5,963,537) is cited to show a method of interchangeably using two disc cartridges with two different types of shutters.
- d. Mori (US 6,157,605) is cited to show an optical disc apparatus.
- e. Nakahima (US 6,570,841 B1) is cited to show a disk cartridge and a disk cartridge with an erroneous insertion tab.
- f. Takahashi (US 6,577,592 B1) is cited to show a disc cartridge with a punched shutter window.

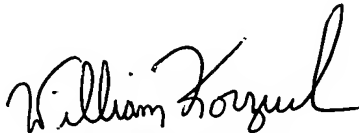
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher R. Magee whose telephone number is (703) 605-4256. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 8: 00 am-5: 30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William Korzuch can be reached on (703) 305-6137. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
Christopher R. Magee  
Patent Examiner  
Art Unit 2653

March 21, 2004

  
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